

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Project Title:**

# Anchorage - Abbott Loop Community Park Ball Field Surface & Playground Improvements, Concession Building Design and Permitting

**State Funding Requested: \$ 500,000****House District: 30 - O**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Funding would be used to implement the remaining elements of the Community Park Master Plan Vision.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$900,000**

<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
Amount	FY	Amount	FY	Amount	FY
Other		\$400,000	2008		
Total		\$400,000			

*Explanation of Other Funds:**Private Donations from the Anchorage Park Foundation***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Article VII, sections 4 and 5 of Alaska's Constitution specify that the "Legislature shall provide for the promotion and protection of public health" and "provide for public welfare." Parks are an integral component of a healthy community, encouraging healthy individuals and improving the quality of life in the community. Further, in today's global economy, quality of life is integral to attracting investment and economic development. The general economic health of communities, and the individual health of Alaskans is a constitutional responsibility of the Legislature.

Abbott Loop Community Park is one of the newest parks in Anchorage and needs important upgrades to improve the safety of park users. The park provides for year round family and community recreation as well as linkage to the Far North Bicentennial park trail system. Summer activities include little league baseball, soccer, horseback riding, picnicking, walking, jogging and biking. Winter activities focus on Nordic skiing as the park is a major access to the larger groomed trail network. A large amount of construction work was completed in 2006 including the paved parking lot, irrigation upgrades to the league fields, dugouts, utility extensions to provide future lighting, picnic pavilion and pedestrian pathways.

This state funding request would be used to implement the remaining elements of the Community Park Master Plan Vision. The plan elements include the development of a playground, sledding hill, lighting, signage, trailhead improvements, park amenities, concession stand and improved pedestrian

circulation.

Upgrades to the park will improve the safety of local users and in providing important recreational opportunities, promote the general health and welfare of residents.

Total park improvement project cost is \$900,000, with \$500,000 requested as a state grant and \$400,000 in private donations from the Anchorage Park Foundation.

**Project Timeline:**

Construction will begin in 2008.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Municipality of Anchorage

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No